

# THE ANACONDA COMPANY

P.O. BOX 638, GRANTS, NEW MEXICO 87020

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NEW MEXICO OPERATIONS

A. J. FITCH  
MANAGER



U. S. Geological Survey  
Carlsbad, N. M.

April 2, 1973

U. S. Geological Survey  
P. O. Box 829  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220

Attention: Mr. R. S. Fulton, Area Mining Supervisor

Gentlemen:

We are herewith submitting for approval a mining plan covering an area to be identified as the "P-10 Underground Project".

The site of the proposed activity is located within the boundaries of "Lease 4" granted to The Anaconda Company by the Pueblo of Laguna and lies within T 10 N., R. 5 W., Sections 5, 8 and 9.

This application is in conformity with the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 30 - Mineral Resources, Geological Survey, Part 231.10.

## Description of Operation

Enclosed are 5 prints each of:

- 1) Plan Map P-10 Mine, Scale 1" = 100' and
- 2) Plan Map P-10 Mine Area Showing Surface Installations, scale 1" = 100' (Topographical)

These maps show the underground plan including the location of working shafts and ventilation shafts, as well as the surface layout, elevations, buildings, roads, etc.

Access to the orebody will be by vertical shafts, viz: Main Shaft (3 compartment) and Number 2 and 3 shafts. The former is planned to be sunk by conventional methods to a depth of 335 feet and the latter two are to be drilled, one compartment installations of 435 and 510 feet respectively. They will, primarily, be used as material hoisting facilities.

The operation has an expected life of  $5\frac{1}{2}$  years with some 464,500 tons of ore expected to be extracted. Activity is scheduled to commence on July 1, 1973 with plans calling for shaft sinking, station cutting and development work to be accomplished by a mining contractor during the balance of the year and the first part of the next. Anaconda then expects to start mining ore by July, 1974 and will maintain production thereafter at a rate of 500-750 tons per day until exhaustion of the ore body during 1977.

### Mining Plans

The ore body will be mined by sublevel stoping methods. The enclosed underground plan map shows the proposed location of shafts, haulage drifts, raises and ventilation shafts. Raises are planned to be driven directly into the ore bodies and ore will then be developed by small access drifts through and around the mineralized areas. Stopping will then take place with waste pillars being utilized for ground support along with additional conventional methods of support such as: rock bolts, steel sets, timber sets, stulls and cribbing. It is anticipated that ore bodies will be small, thin and sporadic and no difficulty is expected in holding the ground.

### Surface Layout

The location of proposed access roads, buildings, shaft sites, power lines and dump areas are shown on the accompanying contour map.

The roads will be approximately thirty feet wide and will be surfaced with mine waste. Approximately 6,600 feet will be built. The roads have been so planned as to avoid excess cut and fill and culverts will be provided for major drainage channels.

Two buildings will be erected at the Main Shaft site being approximately 40 x 120 feet and 25 x 75 feet in size. The larger will house the mine offices, change room and hoist facilities. The smaller building will be a combination shop and compressor house. The other two shafts (Nos. 2 & 3) will require only hoist houses of about 30 feet wide by 40 feet long. Other small, temporary buildings, such as oil storage sheds, may be required, but they will be constructed on waste dumps where excavation will not be necessary.

### Environmental Impact, Pollutants

At the present time it cannot accurately be predicted how much water will be pumped from the proposed mine. However, it is anticipated that the inflow and introduced amount will be small. The orebodies are located in strata which are naturally drained by surrounding ravines and canyons. It is planned to establish earthfill settling ponds east of the Main Shaft in order to settle out all particulate matter from the mine water and evaporate the water rather than to allow it to overflow into dry stream channels. The mine water will be piped to the pond site.

Sewage lagoons will be constructed northeast of the Main Shaft of sufficient capacity to handle all of the toilet, shower and other like wastes created at the mine site.

The areas surrounding the three shaft sites from which the contours have been omitted from the submitted topographic map are locations of excavation and/or waste fill. The crest heights of the waste dumps are shown around the perimeter outlines on the map and vary from 5 to 36 feet. The tonnages and square foot area of the dumps are as follows:

|             |             |                     |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Main shaft  | 38,000 tons | 254,170 square feet |
| No. 2 shaft | 39,000 tons | 82,700 square feet  |
| No. 3 shaft | 27,000 tons | 63,300 square feet  |

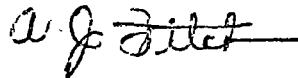
During the period of operation these areas will be used as mine yards where buildings and material storage will be located. Upon completion of mining activities structures will be moved elsewhere on the lease, and it is planned to seed the dump areas with grasses and vegetation common to the locale with guidance and aid from the U.S. Soil Conservation Service and other sources familiar with this type of activity. Further detail in this regard is not available at this time. Experimental work and studies as to types and mixtures of vegetation best suited to the local environment however are being, and will be, carried forward with due diligence and as operations proceed.

Due to the nature of the ore deposit and the type of mining which will be involved there should be no other disturbance to the surface such as subsidence. At the end of the operation mine openings will be sealed in accordance with regulations in effect at that time.

General

We believe that we are supplying you with sufficient data whereby you can promptly approve of the plan or indicate what modifications are necessary to conform to the provisions of the applicable regulations and/or the terms and conditions of the lease. We are on a tight mining schedule and it is extremely important that development and production from the P-10 Underground Project proceed as planned, time-wise. Your assistance and cooperation toward this end will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A. J. Fitch", with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

A. J. FITCH

AJF:hr